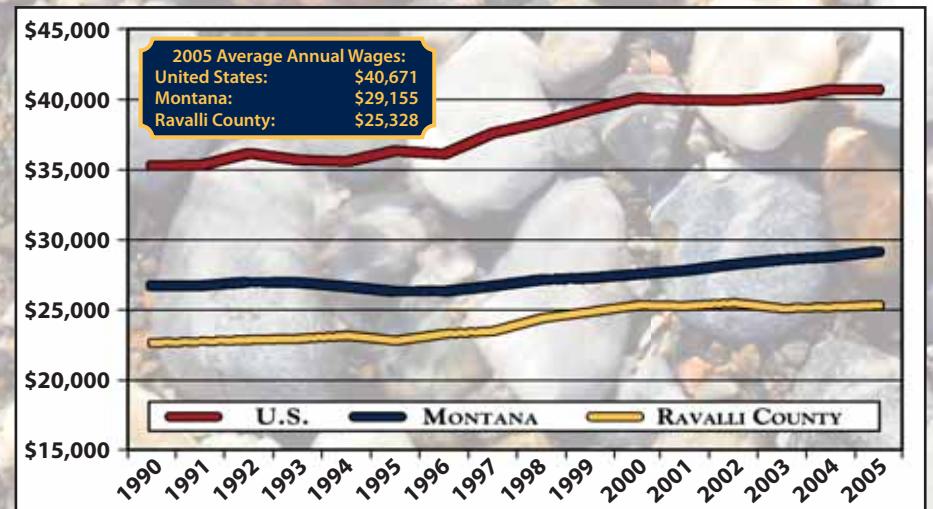


Annual Average Labor Force - Ravalli County

| Year | Civilian Labor Force | Employed | Unemployed | Unemployment Rate |
|------|----------------------|----------|------------|-------------------|
| 2005 | 18,650 | 17,789 | 861 | 4.6 |
| 2004 | 18,274 | 17,348 | 926 | 5.1 |
| 2003 | 17,861 | 16,904 | 957 | 5.4 |
| 2002 | 17,550 | 16,652 | 898 | 5.1 |
| 2001 | 17,293 | 16,446 | 847 | 4.9 |
| 2000 | 17,094 | 16,198 | 896 | 5.2 |

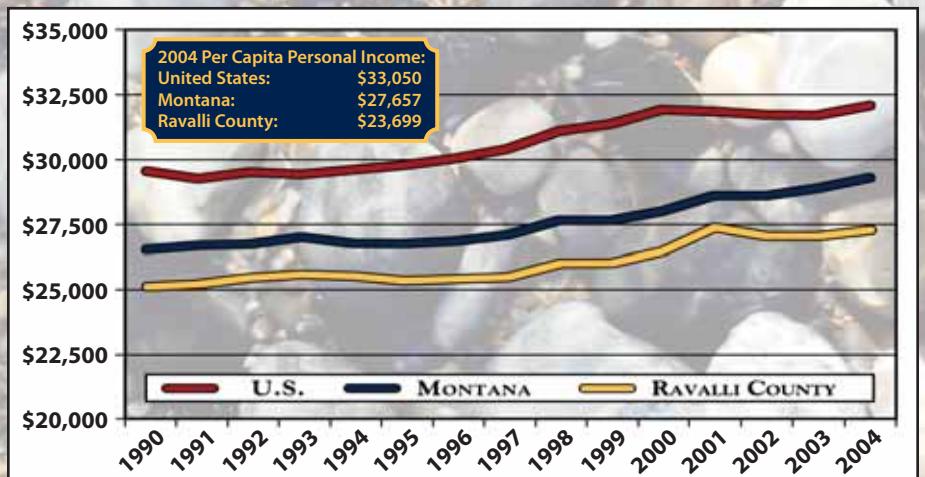
Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS)

Average Annual Wages, 1990 to 2005 (In 2005 Dollars)



Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

Per Capita Personal Income, 1990 to 2004 (In 2005 Dollars)

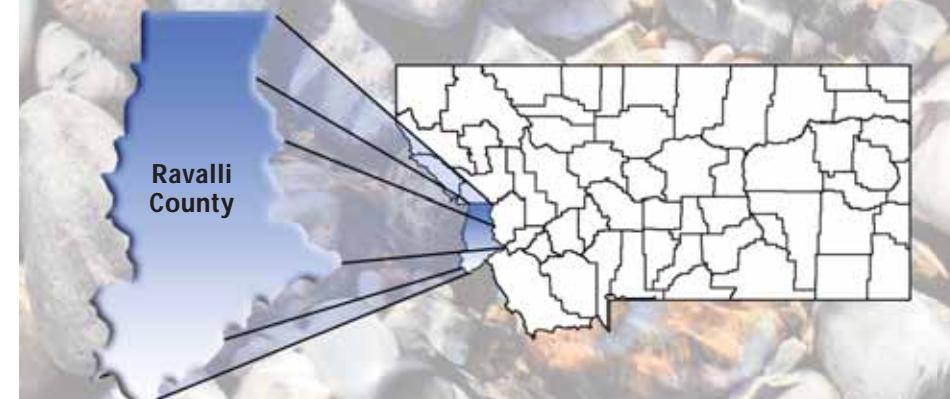


Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, Regional Economic Information System



Photo courtesy of Donnie Sexton, Travel Montana

Demographic & Economic Information for Ravalli County



RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU

Research & Analysis Bureau - Montana Department of Labor & Industry
P.O. Box 1728 - Helena, MT 59624-1728 - Ph: (406) 444-2430
or Toll-free: (800) 541-3904 - Fax: (406) 444-2638
E-mail: webmaster@mt.gov - Website: www.ourfactsyourfuture.org



Census and Economic Information Center - Montana Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 200505 - Helena, MT 59620-0505 - Ph: (406) 841-2740 - Fax: (406) 841-2731
E-mail: ceic@mt.gov - Website: www.ceic.mt.gov

RAVALLI COUNTY

Also known as the “Bitterroot Valley,” Ravalli County lies between the Sapphire Mountains on the East and the Bitterroot Mountains on the West. Ravalli is Montana’s 7th most populous county with an estimated 39,940 residents in 2005. Hamilton, the county seat, is the state’s 19th largest city with a population of 4,443 in 2005.¹ Other towns in Ravalli County include Stevensville, Darby, and Pinesdale. In the 1990’s, Ravalli County was the fastest growing county in Montana, with a population increase of 43% (25,010 to 35,811 residents) from 1990 to 1999.²

Retail Trade is the biggest subsector of Ravalli County’s economy, with employment levels reaching 1,477 in 2005. Other significant subsectors include Health Care & Social Assistance, Educational Services, Manufacturing, and Accommodation & Food Services. However, it is the smaller subsectors that have seen the most growth in recent years, with Wholesale Trade; Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Mining; and Construction all showing double-digit growth from 2004 to 2005.³

Ravalli County contains 1,850 square miles of public forest lands, which has played a significant role in its economic development. Historically, these lands have primarily contributed to the economy through lumber and wood products manufacturing. Today, these public forests are considered an important draw for tourism and migration to the area. Lumber and wood products manufacturing still play an important role, however, and Ravalli County was one of only a few counties to experience growth in this economic subsector in recent years.²

Another draw to the area is its proximity to Missoula. Estimates suggest that roughly 15 to 20 percent of employed Ravalli County residents work in Missoula County.²

¹U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

²The Bitterroot Valley of Western Montana Area Economic Profile” by Dr. Larry Swanson of the University of Montana

³Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

Resources for Ravalli County

Job Service Workforce Center

Bitterroot Job Service Workforce Center
333 W. Main St., Hamilton, MT 59840
Ph: 406-363-1822,
Website: jsd.dli.mt.gov/local/hamilton

Newspapers

Ravalli Republic
232 W. Main St., Hamilton, MT 59840
Ph: 406-363-3300
E-mail: publisher@ravallirepublic.com
Website: www.ravallinews.com

The Bitterroot Star

215 Main, Stevensville, MT 59870
Ph: 406-777-3928, E-mail: brstar@montana.com
Website: www.bitterrootstar.com

Chamber of Commerce:

Bitterroot Valley Chamber of Commerce
105 E. Main, Hamilton, MT 59840
Ph: 406-363-2400
E-mail: localinfo@bvchamber.com
Website: bitterrootvalleychamber.com

Economic Development

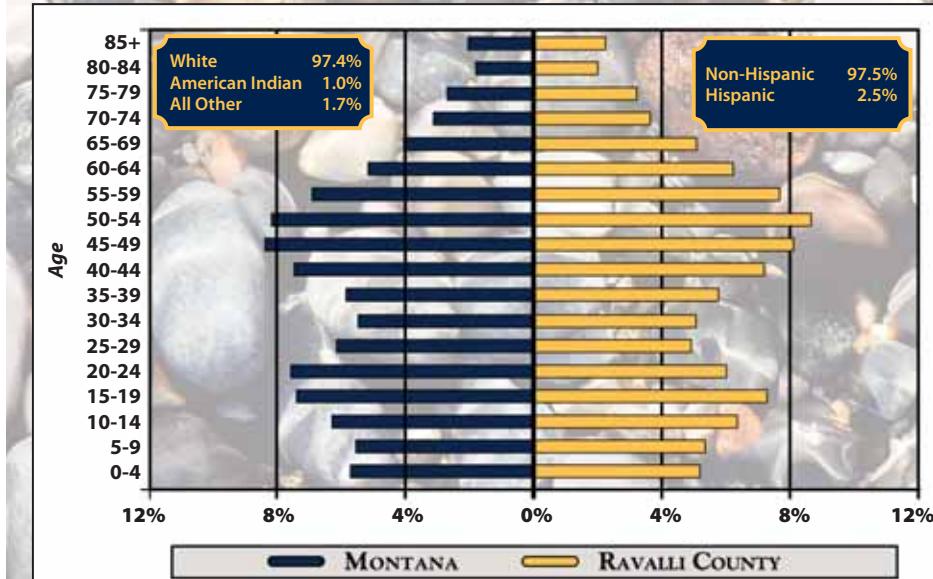
Ravalli County Economic Development Authority
105 E. Main, Hamilton, MT 59840
Ph: 406-375-9416
E-mail: julie@rceda.org
Website: rceda.org

Population for Ravalli County & Related Areas

| Geography | Total Population | | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | Census | Estimates | | | | |
| 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | |
| Montana | 902,195 | 906,098 | 910,395 | 917,885 | 926,920 | 935,670 |
| Ravalli County | 36,070 | 36,907 | 37,737 | 38,739 | 39,470 | 39,940 |
| Darby | 710 | 726 | 751 | 786 | 816 | 835 |
| Hamilton | 3,705 | 3,843 | 3,960 | 4,182 | 4,353 | 4,443 |
| Pinesdale | 742 | 771 | 801 | 819 | 831 | 832 |
| Stevensville | 1,553 | 1,640 | 1,730 | 1,793 | 1,833 | 1,855 |
| Balance of Ravalli County | 29,360 | 29,927 | 30,495 | 31,159 | 31,637 | 31,975 |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Distribution of Population by Age Montana and Ravalli County, 2005



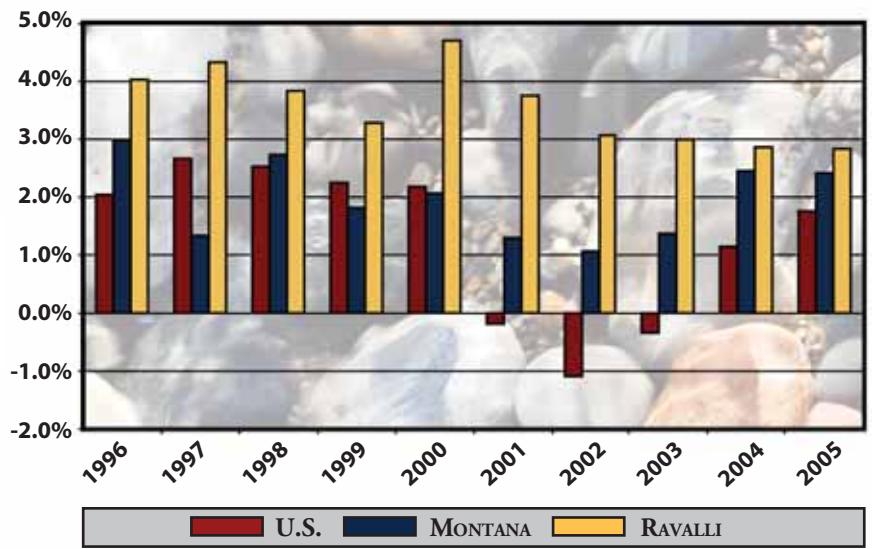
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 Population Estimates

Highest Level of Educational Attainment (Population 25 years and older)

| Educational Attainment | Ravalli County | Montana | U.S. |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------|-------|
| Less than High School Diploma | 12.6% | 12.8% | 19.6% |
| High School Diploma (or equivalent) | 31.5% | 31.3% | 28.6% |
| Some College | 28.2% | 25.6% | 21.0% |
| Associate Degree | 5.2% | 5.9% | 6.3% |
| Bachelor's Degree | 15.9% | 17.2% | 15.5% |
| Master's Degree | 3.6% | 4.6% | 5.9% |
| Professional Degree | 1.4% | 1.7% | 2.0% |
| Doctoral Degree | 1.7% | 0.9% | 1.0% |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

Percent Change in Employment: 1996 to 2005 U.S., Montana, and Ravalli County



Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

Top 20 Private Employers in Ravalli County (Based on 1st Quarter 2006 Data - Listed in Alphabetical Order)

| Business Name | Size Class | Business Name | Size Class |
|-----------------------------|------------|--|------------|
| A 2 Z Personnel-Nolan Temps | 5 | Marcus Daly Memorial Hospital | 7 |
| Albertsons | 6 | Neville Log Homes | 5 |
| Apex Human Resources | 6 | North Valley Health Care Center | 5 |
| Corixa Corporation | 6 | Pioneer Log Homes | 5 |
| Custom Log Homes | 5 | Ravalli Services Corp. | 5 |
| Discovery Care Centre | 5 | Rocky Mountain Log Homes | 5 |
| Farmers State Bank | 6 | Selway Corporation | 6 |
| Fox Lumber Sales | 6 | Stravina Operating Co. | 5 |
| Kmart | 5 | Super 1 Foods | 6 |
| Lost Trail Ski Area | 5 | Valley View Estates Health Care Center | 5 |

Employment Size Class Coding: Class 9 = 1000+ employees, Class 8 = 500 to 999 employees, Class 7 = 250 to 499 employees, Class 6 = 100 to 249 employees, Class 5 = 50 to 99 employees, Class 4 = 20 to 49 employees, Class 3 = 10 to 19 employees

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)
This list includes ONLY private industry employers subject to unemployment insurance. Railroads and government agencies are excluded.

Agricultural Statistics - Ravalli County

| Farms | |
|--|---------|
| Farms: (number) | 1,441 |
| Land in farms (acres) | 245,133 |
| Average size of farms (acres) | 170 |
| Farms by size: (number) | |
| Less than 1,000 acres | 1,388 |
| 1,000 acres or more | 53 |
| Farms by value of products sold and government payments received: (number) | |
| Less than \$100,000 | 1,381 |
| \$100,000 or more | 60 |
| Farms by type of organization: (number) | |
| Family, Individual, Partnership | 1,358 |
| Corporation, Cooperative, Trust | 83 |

Livestock Inventory and Crops Harvested

| | |
|--|--------|
| Livestock and Poultry Inventory (number) | |
| Cattle and calves | 33,846 |
| Hogs and pigs | 854 |
| Sheep and lambs | 4,473 |
| Horses and ponies | 4,927 |
| Bison | 44 |
| Chickens (layers and broilers) | 2,263 |
| Crops Harvested (acres) | |
| Corn for grain | 0 |
| Corn for silage or greenchop | 292 |
| Wheat for grain, All | 1,789 |
| Winter wheat for grain | 758 |
| Durum wheat for grain | 0 |
| Spring wheat for grain | 1,031 |
| Barley for grain | 1,262 |
| Oats for grain | 742 |
| Sunflower seed, All | 0 |
| Soybeans for beans | 0 |
| Hay, haylage, grass silage | 44,256 |

Operator Demographics

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Primary occupation: (number) | |
| Farming | 745 |
| Other | 696 |
| Place of residence: (number) | |
| On farm operated | 1,339 |
| Not on farm operated | 102 |
| Years on present farm: (number) | |
| Less than 10 years | 524 |
| 10 years or more | 917 |
| Age group: (number) | |
| Under 55 years | 673 |
| 55 years and over | 768 |
| Average age of operators: (number) | 56.6 |

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2002
(D) - Not Disclosable

Employment by Industry - Annual Averages 2005 - Ravalli County

| Industry | Number of Establishments | Average Annual Employment | Annual Wages Per Job |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES | 1,469 | 10,928 | \$25,332 |
| TOTAL PRIVATE | 1,402 | 8,905 | \$23,652 |
| AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHING & HUNTING | 55 | 233 | \$23,655 |
| Crop production | 10 | 101 | \$25,302 |
| Animal production | 13 | 56 | \$21,549 |
| Forestry and logging | 22 | 67 | \$23,118 |
| Agriculture & forestry support | 11 | 10 | \$22,340 |
| MINING | 4 | * | * |
| Mining, except oil and gas | 4 | * | * |
| UTILITIES | 5 | 37 | \$56,532 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 294 | 962 | \$27,647 |
| Construction of buildings | 98 | 317 | \$27,234 |
| Heavy and civil engineering construction | 15 | 42 | \$37,201 |
| Specialty trade contractors | 181 | 604 | \$27,205 |
| MANUFACTURING | 90 | 1,026 | \$33,678 |
| Food manufacturing | 8 | 60 | \$14,946 |
| Beverage and tobacco product mfg | 1 | * | * |
| Textile mills | 1 | * | * |
| Textile product mills | 2 | * | * |
| Leather and allied product manufacturing | 3 | * | * |
| Wood product manufacturing | 23 | 538 | \$40,399 |
| Printing and related support activities | 4 | 9 | \$18,555 |
| Chemical manufacturing | 1 | * | * |
| Plastics & rubber products manufacturing | 2 | * | * |
| Nonmetallic mineral product mfg | 3 | * | * |
| Primary metal manufacturing | 1 | * | * |
| Fabricated metal product manufacturing | 16 | 186 | \$33,434 |
| Machinery manufacturing | 3 | 9 | \$18,589 |
| Computer and electronic product mfg | 2 | * | * |
| Electrical equipment and appliance mfg | 1 | * | * |
| Transportation equipment manufacturing | 3 | 24 | \$21,572 |
| Furniture and related product mfg | 10 | 25 | \$18,647 |
| Miscellaneous manufacturing | 7 | 50 | \$26,910 |
| WHOLESALE TRADE | 66 | 397 | \$30,216 |
| Merchant wholesalers, durable goods | 28 | 196 | \$34,747 |
| Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods | 15 | 140 | \$23,906 |
| Electronic markets & agents and brokers | 23 | 61 | \$30,125 |
| RETAIL TRADE | 168 | 1,477 | \$18,439 |
| Motor vehicle and parts dealers | 20 | 148 | \$25,445 |
| Furniture and home furnishings stores | 15 | 82 | \$18,353 |
| Electronics and appliance stores | 7 | * | * |
| Building material & garden supply stores | 28 | 183 | \$21,222 |
| Food and beverage stores | 18 | 531 | \$18,054 |
| Health and personal care stores | 11 | 101 | \$26,616 |
| Gasoline stations | 17 | 157 | \$12,286 |
| Clothing and clothing accessories stores | 8 | 31 | \$14,240 |
| Sporting good, hobby, book, music stores | 14 | 63 | \$10,035 |
| General merchandise stores | 3 | * | * |
| Miscellaneous store retailers | 21 | 73 | \$12,622 |

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

* Data Not Disclosable

| Industry | Number of Establishments | Average Annual Employment | Annual Wages Per Job |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Nonstore retailers | 7 | 13 | \$23,436 |
| TRANSPORTATION AND WAREHOUSING | 45 | 241 | \$23,942 |
| Air transportation | 3 | * | * |
| Truck transportation | 25 | 149 | \$26,800 |
| Transit and ground passenger transport | 3 | 54 | \$7,724 |
| Support activities for transportation | 13 | 32 | \$34,372 |
| Couriers and messengers | 1 | * | * |
| INFORMATION | 23 | 97 | \$22,186 |
| Publishing industries, except Internet | 7 | 30 | \$12,030 |
| Motion picture, sound recording industry | 4 | 20 | \$9,358 |
| Broadcasting, except Internet | 2 | * | * |
| Telecommunications | 6 | 36 | \$36,560 |
| ISPs, search portals, & data processing | 2 | * | * |
| Other information services | 2 | * | * |
| FINANCE AND INSURANCE | 49 | 383 | \$34,961 |
| Credit intermediation & related activity | 19 | 273 | \$32,991 |
| Securities, comm. contracts, investments | 9 | 23 | \$73,586 |
| Insurance carriers & related activities | 22 | 88 | \$31,113 |
| REAL ESTATE AND RENTAL AND LEASING | 53 | 112 | \$17,212 |
| Real estate | 46 | 95 | \$18,824 |
| Rental and leasing services | 7 | 17 | \$8,106 |
| PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES | 121 | 481 | \$38,048 |
| MANAGEMENT OF COMPANIES AND ENTERPRISES | 4 | 14 | \$32,651 |
| ADMINISTRATIVE AND WASTE SERVICES | 55 | 424 | \$20,794 |
| Administrative and support services | 52 | 386 | \$19,592 |
| Waste management and remediation service | 3 | 38 | \$32,999 |
| EDUCATIONAL SERVICES | 10 | 88 | \$17,968 |
| HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE | 88 | 1,133 | \$24,171 |
| Ambulatory health care services | 54 | 316 | \$22,972 |
| Hospitals | 1 | * | * |
| Nursing and residential care facilities | 9 | 250 | \$18,386 |
| Social assistance | 25 | * | * |
| ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND RECREATION | 43 | 334 | \$15,112 |
| Performing arts and spectator sports | 5 | * | * |
| Museums, historical sites, zoos, & parks | 1 | * | * |
| Amusements, gambling, and recreation | 36 | 319 | \$14,963 |
| ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICES | 107 | 1,016 | \$10,162 |
| Accommodation | 24 | 174 | \$15,759 |
| Food services and drinking places | 83 | 842 | \$9,006 |
| OTHER SERVICES | 122 | 439 | \$16,496 |
| Repair and maintenance | 45 | 141 | \$22,369 |
| Personal and laundry services | 21 | 71 | \$13,382 |
| Membership associations & organizations | 40 | 175 | \$11,720 |
| Private households | 16 | 52 | \$20,883 |
| TOTAL GOVERNMENT | 67 | 2,023 | \$32,729 |
| Local Government | 33 | 1,358 | \$24,976 |
| State Government | 15 | 165 | \$33,142 |
| Federal Government | 19 | 501 | \$53,612 |

The QCEW program compiles data reported by all employers covered under Montana unemployment insurance. (Totals may not add due to nondisclosure of confidential industry data or to rounding.)